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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,072	02/27/2002	Laurie DeLeve	13761-7065	1401

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EXAMINER

SHARAREH, SHAHNAM J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1617

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding:

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/086,072

Applicant(s)

DELEVE, LAURIE

Examiner

Shahnam Sharareh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 December 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) ~~1-19~~ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 18 and 19 is/are rejected. *W*
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 18 and 19 is/are objected to. +4-17
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Amendment filed on December 2, 2003 has been entered. Claims 1-19 are pending. Any rejection that is not addressed in this Office Action is considered obviated in view of the claim amendments.

Claims 4-17 are free of art.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1-3, 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Upadhy et al (Hepatology 1997; 26: 922-928, IDS filed 7/2/02) in view of Kottirsch et al US Patent 6,500,983

Upadhy conducts tests to establish that matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs) play a significant role induction and progression of the injury produced by cold preservation of human liver and its sinusoidal endothelial cells. (see abstract) Upadha explains that such methodologies are effective animal models for liver transplant studies (see pages 922-924). Finally, Upadhy concludes the potential use of MMP inhibitors in preserving liver's sinusoidal endothelial cell lining (see page 927-928, last 3 paragraphs). Upadhy does not expressly administer MMP inhibitors to humans susceptible of developing Sinusoidal Obstructive Syndrome.

Kottirsch teaches the use of MMP inhibitors for treating conditions that are medicated by over-production of MMP (see col 12, line 65-col 13, line 39; col 15, lines 45-50).

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Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to administer an MMP inhibitor, such as those described by Kottirsch, to patients susceptible to increased activity of MMP, such as patients post liver transplant, because as taught by Upadhyaya, the ordinary skill in the art would have had a reasonable expectation of success that administration of such agents would preserve sinusoidal endothelial cell lining in such patients

Claim Objections

Claims 18-19 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form.

The recitation of “patients suffer from or is susceptible to SOS” in claim 18 and “patients suffers from or is susceptible to chemotherapy or radiation –induced liver disease” fail to further limit their respective base claims 1, 2, 11, 16. The method of claim 1 is directed for use in patients in need of treatment for SOS. Such group of people includes all patients that are susceptible to developing SOS such as those undergoing chemotherapy, or radiation therapy.

Further, the recitation of “ patients suffering or are susceptible to chemotherapy..” also fails to limit their base claim. In addition, the recitation is ambiguous. Almost any person may be susceptible to chemotherapy.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shahnam Sharareh whose telephone number is 571-272-0630. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 6:00 pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sreenivasan Padmanabhan, PhD can be reached on 571-272-0629. The

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fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SS


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